

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CITY FILES NUISANCE SUITS AGAINST FIVE APARTMENT COMPLEXES AND ONE MULTI-PROPERTY OWNER

PROPERTIES ACCOUNT FOR MORE THAN 3,900 POLICE RUNS AND NEARLY 900 HEALTH AND CODE VIOLATIONS

INDIANAPOLIS – The City of Indianapolis today announced the filing of public nuisance charges against five Indianapolis apartment complexes and one multi-property owner – Aspen Village Apartments, Carmel Creek Apartments, Harmony Park Place Apartments, Lake Marina Apartments, Warren Harbor Apartments, and property owner David Garden. The suits allege all six properties/owners have unreasonably consumed city, public, and law enforcement resources including over 3,900 police runs, more than 450 Indianapolis Fire Department Medical Runs, 80 Indianapolis Animal Care and Control Cases, and nearly 900 Department of Code Enforcement (DCE) and Marion County Public Health Department violations. Incidents at the properties include: rape, assault, narcotics, arson, armed robbery, and homicide.

"We will not allow property owners to damage our communities and drain unnecessary public resources," said Mayor Greg Ballard. "Improving the quality of life for our residents is our priority and we will continue to combat crime by holding these negligent owners accountable."

The City seeks an unspecified amount of financial restitution for damages caused and demands all six properties/owners place a priority on safety by increasing crime prevention and awareness. This includes such steps as: maintaining the aesthetics of the property, installing/maintaining security cameras and hiring private security.

"These properties and their owners continue to contribute to crime and illegal activity by not maintaining safe and livable conditions," said City Prosecutor Samantha DeWester. "It is unacceptable, and through the combined efforts with DCE Nuisance Abatement, we will hold these property owners responsible for creating a public nuisance."

DCE's Nuisance Abatement section partners closely with the Office of the City Prosecutor to protect the quality of life for neighborhoods by taking action against problem property owners. Nuisance Abatement is responsible for identifying nuisance properties through data gathering, multi-agency meetings, and organizing multi-agency sweeps.

A breakdown of properties and number of violations can be found here.

The mission of the Office of City Prosecutor is to fairly adjudicate violations of the Revised Code of Indianapolis-Marion County in an effort to preserve and protect neighborhoods.

The mission of the Department of Code Enforcement (DCE) is to improve the quality of life in the City of Indianapolis through strategic application of civil code regulation; effective licensing, permitting, inspection, enforcement, and abatement practices; and local government oversight of property safety and maintenance, business, event, professional, and construction industries.